

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 039557

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-07 ISO-00 /012 R

66616  
DRAFTED BY AF/W-JMSEGARS  
APPROVED BY AF/W:JLLOUGHRAN  
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R 211943Z FEB 75  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 039557

LIMDIS FOR HAVERKAMP

REF: LONDON 2570 AND LONDON 2440  
FOLLOWING REPEAT MONROVIA 989 ACTION SECSTATE INFO PRETORIA CAPETWON  
DATED 19 FEB 75  
QUOTE  
C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 0989

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PF  
R, LI, SF  
SUBJECT: TOLBERT'S MEETING WITH VORSTER

CAPETOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

REF: (1) MONROVIA 0386; (2) LONDON 02440

1. AMBASSADOR THOMAS CALLED ON THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 18  
TO BRING ME UP-TO-DATE ON PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S MEETING WITH  
PRIME MINISTER VORSTER. (THOMAS AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT NO ONE  
IN GOL, INCLUDING PRESIDENT TOLBERT, WAS AWARE THAT HE WAS  
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PAGE 02 STATE 039557

KEEPING ME INFORMED ON GOL/SAG CONTACTS.) THOMAS SAID THAT

UPON HIS RETURN TO NEW YORK HE HAD IMMEDIATELY MADE CONTACT WITH SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR HIM TO MAKE ANOTHER VISIT TO SA. DURING THIS VISIT HE MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PM VORSTER TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT TOLBERT IN MONROVIA AND THEN PROCEEDED TO MONROVIA TO COMPLETE ARRANGEMENTS AT THIS END. HE SAID THE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO LEADERS HAD GONE WELL IN A RELAXED AND CONSTRUCTIVE ATMOSPHERE. WITH RESPECT TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE TALKS, HE HAD NOT PERSONALLY SAT IN ON ANY OF THE MEETINGS. HOWEVER, HE HAD DISCUSSED WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED WITH FONMIN DENNIS AND WITH THE PRESIDENT ON FEBRUARY 16. AT THIS POINT I LET THOMAS READ THE TEXT OF LONDON'S 02440. HE COMMENTED THAT THE BRIEFING OF THE PRESS HAD OBVIOUSLY BEEN DONE BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN SIDE. HE THOUGHT IT UNLIKELY THAT LEAK HAD COME FROM LIBERIAN SIDE SINCE PRESIDENT TOLBERT WAS MOST ANXIOUS TO KEEP SUBSTANCE OF THE DISCUSSIONS SECRET. HE SAID THE LONDON TIME'S STORY WAS "QUITE ACCURATE," BASED ON HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH DENNIS AND THE PRESIDENT. HE SAID IN ADDITION TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE DELEGATION LISTED IN PARA 1 OF REFTEL 2, AMBASSADOR BOTHA AND DR. BRINK, M.D., ALSO PARTICIPATED.

2. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, THOMAS SAID THAT VORSTER DESIRED THAT PRESIDENT TOLBERT ASSUME ROLE OF MEDIATOR WITH OTHER AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE ON SA ISSUES. PRESIDENT TOLBERT IS PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO PLAY SUCH A ROLE PROVIDED HE GETS SOME ENCOURAGEMENT FROM OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS. PRESIDENT TOLBERT HAS ALREADY SENT PERSONAL MESSAGES TO AFRICAN LEADERS (UNSPECIFIED) AND INTENDS UNDERTAKE MORE EXTENSIVE SOUNDINGS. THOMAS SAID HE HAD URGED THAT TOLBERT RETURN VORSTER'S VISIT SHOULD SOUNDINGS AMONG OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS PROVIDE BASIS FOR PRESIDENT TOLBERT TO SERVE AS MEDIATOR. HE SAID PRESIDENT TOLBERT HAD BEEN NON-COMMITAL ON THIS POINT TO DATE.

3. SUMMARY OF PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S PRESS CONFERENCE ON MEETING WITH VORSTER BEING SENT SEPTTEL.

MANFULL  
UNQUOTE  
KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, LI, SF, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES), (TOLBERT, WILLIAM R JR)  
**To:** ABIDJAN MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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